

Appl. No. 09/837,713
Amdt. dated March 30, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 29, 2005

Atty. Ref. 81800.0154
Customer No. 26021

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An image forming apparatus for printing one or more images on one or more recording sheets supplied from a particular paper cassette comprising:

a plurality of paper cassettes for storing recording sheets of different sizes respectively;

at least one first memory table for memorizing a plurality of print types in a predetermined order from a highest priority to a lowest priority, wherein the plurality of print types are prioritized based on a selected printing mode;

a second memory table for memorizing a plurality of comparative print types which are to be compared with the plurality of print types respectively; and

a controller for selecting a first paper cassette from the plurality of paper cassettes that stores recording sheets suited to print an image and has a print type of possible highest priority in the respective first memory table, for selecting a second paper cassette from the plurality of paper cassettes that stores recording sheets suited to print the image and has a comparative print type to be compared with the print type of the first paper cassette in the second memory table, and for selecting one of the first and second paper cassettes based on a predetermined criterion of paper waste reduction as an ultimate paper cassette.

2. (Original) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one first memory table includes a memory table prepared for a first printing mode adapted to preferably print the image at 100% magnification and another memory table prepared for a second printing mode adapted to preferably print the image on a single recording sheet.

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3. (Original) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the predetermined criterion is to select a paper cassette that stores recording sheets of smallest size.

4. (Original) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein if there are more than one first paper cassette, the controller selects a paper cassette that can print the image at a reduction ratio closest to 100%, and if there are more than one second paper cassette, the controller selects a paper cassette that can print the image at a reduction ratio closest to 100%.

5. (Original) The image forming apparatus of claim 4, wherein if the reduction ratios of the respective first paper cassettes are the same, the controller selects a paper cassette that stores recording sheets of smallest size, and if the reduction ratios of the respective second paper cassettes are the same, the controller selects a paper cassette that stores recording sheets of smallest size.

6. (Original) The image forming apparatus of claim 5, wherein if the paper sizes of the respective first paper cassettes are the same, the controller selects a paper cassette that can print the image without turning the image, and if the paper sizes of the respective second paper cassettes are the same, the controller selects a paper cassette that can print the image without turning the image.

7. (Original) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller selects a paper cassette that leaves a smallest margin on the recording sheet upon printing the image when it selects the first and second paper cassettes from the first and second memory tables respectively.

8. (Original) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein if there are more than one first paper cassette, the controller selects a paper cassette that stores recording sheets of smallest width, and if there are more than one second paper cassette, the controller selects a paper cassette that stores recording sheets of smallest width.

9. (Original) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein if there are more than one first paper cassette, the controller selects a paper cassette that can

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print the image in a single recording sheet even if a 100% magnification preferred mode is selected, and if there are more than one second paper cassette, the controller selects a paper cassette that can print the image in a single recording sheet even if a 100% magnification preferred mode is selected.

10. (Original) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein if there is no comparative print type in the second memory table, the controller selects the first paper cassette as the ultimate paper cassette.

11. (Currently amended) A method of printing one or more images on one or more recording sheets supplied from a particular paper cassette comprising the steps of:

A) providing a plurality of paper cassettes to store recording sheets of different sizes;

B) providing at least one first memory table to memorize a plurality of print types in a predetermined order from a highest priority to a lowest priority, wherein the plurality of print types are prioritized based on a selected printing mode;

C) providing a second memory table to memorize a plurality of comparative print types;

D) selecting a first paper cassette from the plurality of paper cassettes that stores recording sheets suited to print an image and has a print type of possible highest priority in the respective first memory table;

E) selecting a second paper cassette from the plurality of paper cassettes that stores recording sheets suited to print the image and has a comparative print type to be compared with the print type of the first paper cassette in the second memory table;

F) selecting one of the first and second paper cassettes based on a predetermined criterion of paper waste reduction as an ultimate paper cassette; and

G) printing the image on one or more recording sheets supplied from the ultimate paper cassette.

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12. (Original) The method of printing according to claim 11, wherein the at least one first memory table includes a memory table prepared for a first printing mode adapted to preferably print the image at 100% magnification and another memory table prepared for a second printing mode adapted to preferably print the image on a single recording sheet.

13. (Original) The method of printing according to claim 11, wherein the predetermined criterion is to select a paper cassette that stores recording sheets of smaller size.

14. (Original) The method of printing according to claim 11, wherein if there are more than one first paper cassette, the step D selects a paper cassette that can print the image at a reduction ratio closest to 100%, and if there are more than one second paper cassette, the step E selects a paper cassette that can print the image at a reduction ratio closest to 100%.

15. (Original) The method of printing according to claim 14, wherein if the reduction ratios of the respective first paper cassettes are the same, the step D selects a paper cassette that stores recording sheets of smallest size, and if the reduction ratios of the respective second paper cassettes are the same, the step E selects a paper cassette that stores recording sheets of smallest size.

16. (Original) The method of printing according to claim 15, wherein if the paper sizes of the respective first paper cassettes are the same, the step D selects a paper cassette that can print the image without turning the image, and if the paper sizes of the respective second paper cassettes are the same, the step E selects a paper cassette that can print the image without turning the image.

17. (Original) The method of printing according to claim 11, wherein the step D selects a paper cassette that leaves a smallest margin on the recording sheet upon printing the image when it selects the first paper cassette from the first memory table and the step E selects a paper cassette that leaves a smallest margin on the recording sheet upon printing the image when it selects the second paper cassette from the second memory table.

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18. (Original) The method of printing according to claim 11, wherein if there are more than one first paper cassette, the step D selects a paper cassette that stores recording sheets of smallest width, and if there are more than one second paper cassette, the step E selects a paper cassette that stores recording sheets of smallest width.

19. (Original) The method of printing according to claim 11, wherein if there are more than one first paper cassette, the step D selects a paper cassette that can print the image in a single recording sheet even if a 100% magnification preferred mode is selected, and if there are more than one second paper cassette, the step E selects a paper cassette that can print the image in a single recording sheet even if a 100% magnification preferred mode is selected.

20. (Original) The method of printing according to claim 11, wherein if there is no comparative print type, the step F selects the first paper cassette as the ultimate paper cassette.

21. (Currently amended) An apparatus for printing one or more images on one or more recording sheets supplied from a particular paper cassette comprising:

a plurality of first means for storing recording sheets of different sizes respectively;

second means for memorizing a plurality of print types in a predetermined order from a highest priority to a lowest priority, wherein the plurality of print types are prioritized based on a selected printing mode;

third means for memorizing a plurality of comparative print types; and

fourth means for selecting one first means from the plurality of first means that stores recording sheets suited to print an image and has a print type of possible highest priority in the second means;

fifth means for selecting another first means from the plurality of first means that stores recording sheets suited to print the image and has a comparative print type to be compared with the print type of the one first means in the third means;

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sixth means for selecting one of the one and another first means based on a predetermined criterion of paper waste reduction as an ultimate first means; and

seventh means for printing the image on one or more recording sheets supplied from the ultimate first means.

22. (New) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

the plurality of print types comprise JUST-1-PAGE, JUST-HALF-PAGE, SEMI-JUST-1-PAGE, SEMI-JUST-HALF-PAGE, HALF-PAGE, 1-PAGE, LONG-PAGE, REDUCED-JUST-1-PAGE, REDUCED-1-PAGE, REDUCED-JUST-HALF-PAGE, REDUCED-HALF-PAGE and REDUCED-PAGE; and

the selected printing mode is either 100% magnification preferred mode or one-page-printing preferred mode.

23. (New) The method of printing according to claim 11, wherein:

the plurality of print types comprise JUST-1-PAGE, JUST-HALF-PAGE, SEMI-JUST-1-PAGE, SEMI-JUST-HALF-PAGE, HALF-PAGE, 1-PAGE, LONG-PAGE, REDUCED-JUST-1-PAGE, REDUCED-1-PAGE, REDUCED-JUST-HALF-PAGE, REDUCED-HALF-PAGE and REDUCED-PAGE; and

the selected printing mode is either 100% magnification preferred mode or one-page-printing preferred mode.